



VIBRATIONS

JUNE 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMANS RIDE

A great turn out for the 2023 DGR, raising funds for prostate cancer whilst having fun.

YORVIK

5 made the annual Route 66 spring trip to meet with Yorvik branch.

RIDE OUT TO SOUTH Lincs BRANCH

A bank holiday ride out to meet with South Lincs



2023 DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMEN (& LADIES)

THE 8TH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMAN'S RIDE

Dressed in their best suits and dapper outfits riders mounted 130 motorcycles and set off from Pure Triumph Wellingborough to travel the attractive lanes of Northamptonshire and Leicestershire to arrive at Triumph Hinckley along with three other rides.

Apologies for the belated June Edition of Vibrations, we have been gadding about in gloriously sunny Normandy. I hope you've been out and about too, as summer is just around the corner and now is the time to get on your bikes and feel your wind in your hair. Take a look at the events list, there is plenty of opportunity to get out in the sunshine (or rain) with the club.

Don't forget to keep your contributions coming in, if you attend an event you want to share with other Triumph riders why not put down a few words, fill up the gaps with some interesting pictures and send it off to TOMCC-Vibrations@hotmail.com. Your contributions are always appreciated.

Kirstie & Mark

TRIUMPH OWNERS M.C.C. NORTHANTS BRANCH





INTRODUCTIONS

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new club members this month

Chris Moody - Braunston
Jamie Ambler - Kettering
David Skittles - Brackley

Martin Hurrell - Brixworth
Steve Howell - Milton Malsor
Roy Marks - Roade

EVENTS LIST – THE BIG LIST

IN ADDITION TO THE EVENTS BELOW FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ADHOC RIDE-OUTS VIA THE BRANCH'S FACEBOOK PAGE

JUNE			
Sat 3rd	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Woburn
3 rd & 4th	11:00am	Coventry Moto Fest	Coventry
Sun 4th	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	Two Flags Diner
Wed 7th	7.30pm	Club Night Triumph Triples	The Crown Hardingstone
Sat 10th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sat 10th	10.00am	Daventry Bike Festival	Daventry Centre
Mon 12 th - Fri 16 th		Northants TOMCC Club Trip	Borth West Wales
Thur 15th	7:00pm	Northants VJMC - BBQ	3 Horseshoes ECTON
Sun 18th	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	Wymondham Windmill
Mon 19th	7.00pm	Meriden TOMCC	H of E Social Meriden
Wed 21st	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sat 24th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sun 25th	10.00-15:00	NORTHANTS TRIUMPH DAY	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
JULY			
Sat 1st	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sun 2nd	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	The Square St. Neots
Mon 3rd	7.00pm	Milton Keynes TOMCC	The Station Inn Woburn Sands
Wed 5th	7.30pm	Club Night - Concours	The Crown Hardingstone
Sun 9th	TBC	Grimethorpe Classic	Bourne
Wed 12th	9.30am	Breakfast Meet	Hoar Park / Huggies Speed Shop
Wed 12 th	7:00pm	Hermitage Care Home Thrapston	Meet Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Fri 14 th to Sun 16 th		Essex Treffen Rally	Dog & Partridge Orset
Sun 16th	09.00am	Dambusters Flight	Woodhall Spa
Wed 19th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sun 23rd	10.00am	Founders Day (VMCC)	Stanford Hall
Wed 26th	7.30pm	Summer BBQ Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sat 29th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sun 30th	10.00am	Guest led ride	Sunday 100 rideout (S Patenall)

AUGUST

Wed 2nd	7.30pm	Club Night - Scramblers	The Crown Hardingstone
Sun 7 th	11:00-16:00	Rushden Bike Festival	Rushden, Hall Park
Wed 9th	9.30am	Breakfast Meet	Hoar Park
Sun 13th	9.30am	Breakfast Meet	Rutland TT
Wed 16th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Fri 18th to Sun 20th		South Lincs - TOMCC Rally (Big Branch Bash)	Greetham Ctr. Oakham
Sat 26th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sun 27th	10.00am	Guest Member Rideout	TBC
Wed 30th	7.30pm	Club Night – Meriden	The Swan Newton Bromswold

SEPTEMBER

Sat 2nd	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough
Sun 3rd	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	GILKS Garage Kinerton
Sun 3rd	10.00am	ABF Charity Event	Triumph Factory Hinkley
Wed 6th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sun 10th	09.00am	Fish & Chip Run	Hunstanton
Wed 13th	9.30am	Breakfast Meet	Hoar Park
Sun 17 th	9.30am	Peterborough Branch Bike Show	The Bull Newborough
Wed 20th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Sat 23rd/Sun 24th		Piston & Props	Sywell Aerodrome
Fri 29th	09.00am	McMillan Coffee Morning	TBC
Sat 30th	10.30am	Breakfast Meet	Pure Triumph Wellingborough

OCTOBER

Sun 1st	10.00am	Guest Member Rideout	TBC
Wed 4th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Fri 13 th – Mon 16 th		Skegfest	Golden Palm Resort, Chapel St Leonards, Lincs
Sun 15th	10.00am	Breakfast Meet	Super Sausage Potterspury
Wed 18th	7.30pm	Club Music Quiz Night	The Crown Hardingstone

NOVEMBER

Wed 1st	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Wed 15th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Wed 29th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Swan Newton Bromswold

DECEMBER

Wed 6th	7.30pm	Club Night	The Crown Hardingstone
Wed 20th	7.30pm	Club Night - Xmas Party	The Crown Hardingstone

DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMAN'S RIDE



DAPPER LADIES & GENTLEMEN ASSEMBLE



This month saw us celebrate the 2023 Distinguished Gentleman's Ride Northampton for the 8th year. I was delighted to co-host this year with Kevin Lington, as you very well know as Pure Triumph General Manager. Thanks also for the backup van with Nina at the wheel.

This year's event was the best so far. Registration online was slow to begin with, as we were late giving out our final destination, which was somewhat a waiting game for a reply to our requests to where we would like to have finished the ride. But, as it happened the



team at Triumph Factory Visitor Experience invited us to ride to the

Factory, along with other rides from Birmingham Triumph, Piddock Triumph and DGR Leicester. They offered to put on some live entertainment and have a few food vans to prevent the cafe being overwhelmed with the vast numbers wanting refreshment.



It was a fantastic day, and everybody looked incredible. Our ride was the most ambitious to date, consisted of 40 miles with around 130 bikes on the day. The sound was fantastic as we bimbled along the roads, through Mears Ashby, Sywell, Holcot, with a regroup on Pitsford Causeway. Then on to Spratton through Welford for our second regroup, before heading to the A5 and north to Hinckley, home of the Triumph factory.

As I'm sure you know, this is a charity ride to raise funds and awareness for men's mental health and prostate cancer research. **The Northampton DGR alone has so far raised over £8860.** There were 104,272 riders globally, with 893 rides across 107 countries.

Well done and thank you to everyone. Triumph also had on the day, spot prizes winners, and our very own Linda was a winner and was presented with a prize, well done to her.

So, on behalf of the DGR team a massive thank you to all of the riders involved in this year's Distinguished Gentleman's Ride. Next year's date for the 2024 Distinguished Gentleman's Ride is Sunday May 19th, let the countdown begin.

Henry



YORVIK BRANCH TRIP

YORVIK BRANCH - ROUTE 66 SPRING RAMPAGE TRIP



Alan and Sue Price, Geoff Davies, Paul Humphreys and myself, attended this years event, held by the TOMCC Yorvik Branch, at Greta Bridge, County Durham.



The weekend trip resulted in riding the bike just over 600miles, in what turned out to be splendid sunshine, not normally typical of the Yorkshire Dales and North Penines, at this time of year.

The event was based from the Morritt Arms Hotel, located in the Penine Hills close to Barnard Castle.

A calendar of daily events was created by the Yorvik team, with the monies from fundraising efforts being donated to the local branch of Blood Bikes. **A total of almost £1000 was raised** and presented before departure.

Day 1 - Ride up, travelling the latter part, through the South and East parts of the Yorkshire dales, arrivals and catch up at Hotel, with charity dinner, followed by presentation by volunteers from Blood Bikes



Day 2 - Ride out, just over 120 miles, through East Cumbria and South West through the Yorkshire dales, returning via Tan Hill Inn (the highest pub in England) over the moors, being careful to dodge the sheep, back to the Hotel. Evening dinner, followed by "Quiz night" which resulted in me getting a score of 8/40 from the two rounds. There was some questions bias - Yorkshire related. The evening closed with a charity raffle, with yours truly winning bike lube and an event T shirt (specially made).



Day 3 - Ride out, again around 100 miles, through the North Penines and North West towards Cumbria. Out past Hamsterly Forest and Deep Dale resevoir, and through Teesdale. Spectacular scenery and culture on return, stopping off at Raby Castle and the Moor House Museum in Barnard Castle. The Yorvik team stopped off at Stanhope for Viking adventures which included Axe Throwing. Evening dinner to wind down, ready for the ride home.



Robert (Bob) Swann

RIDE OUT TO SOUTH LINCS

A COOL RIDE OUT TO SOUTH LINCS BRANCH – 29TH MAY 2023

Bank Holiday Monday, what we used to call the Whitsun Bank holiday but these days it's about a week earlier than it used to be. Nevertheless, it was a dry evening and the group set off from Pure Triumph, Wellingborough to the pick-up point for a few more riders at Thrapston Services where the A45 intersects with the A14.



We were fortunate to have chosen the 29th of May for this ride as the A605 was closed for pothole repairs on 30th May. Hooray! Our chairman mounted on his Bobber led us briskly away from Thrapston at around 7.15pm and was being more or less mindful of the speed limits as we rode in loose formation in mostly light traffic.

Soon we were approaching Peterborough and making our way around the Eastern perimeter for a brief spell on the A47 squinting into the setting sun as we eventually picked up the A16 veering North towards Market Deeping. Suddenly Steve pulls into a service area and stops to whip out his phone.

"Are we on the right bl**dy road" he asks. I reply, "I don't know mate, you're leading us".

We leave the service area, but I can sense that Steve is still not happy and we pull over again. However, another rider takes up the lead and we continue to Market Deeping where there is another stop to enquire and gain local knowledge then we are off again. A left turn down a residential street and then a right turn and in a half a mile or so we arrive at The Goat, Deeping St James to greet the South Lincs lads and lasses.

The pub car park is full but not packed with bikes with quite a preponderance of Rocket IIIs. I am guessing that the lads from this very rural part of the country use them for ploughing to help pay for the cost of petrol (but I confess this is just a guess).

The beer at The Goat is good with a fine selection of hand drawn real ales for the discerning beer lover and the chat is good too, time to catch up on the news and banter. We were invited to risk a pound on the local group's tote and great heavens I even won a tenner although I had to wrest it from the grasp of our chairman who for some reason best known to himself had adopted my name when they were handing out the prize.

With the evening wearing away and the sun long since set it was getting very cool and time to start heading for home. Some opted to take the route via Stamford but Phil Short and I chose a more direct route, in fact five miles shorter than the outward journey and Phil followed me back to Thrapston continuing his homeward journey to Rushden.



A very pleasant ride as always in good company and a worthy destination

Paul Ollett

TIGERS ON TOUR



FIRST RIDING TRIP ABROAD!

After much debate whether to do Channel Tunnel, Portsmouth or Plymouth ferry, largely due to my extreme dislike of ferries, we opted to try a shortish hop to Caen via Portsmouth. It was a chance to get away for a short break, a chance to ride abroad, and a very nervy chance to see if I could overcome the ferry issue.

Cheeky little hotel booked in Caen city centre, ferries booked, we'd prepared the bikes (Tiger & Speed Twin) for an evening jolly down to Portsmouth ready for an early morning ferry. Bikes packed, gear on, Speed Twin- which is only 5 months old did not want to start! It gurgled, fired then died. No issues with power, no issues with it turning over, just 3-4 seconds of running before it died again.

The bike had been ridden to refuel just 2 days prior, turned over at lunchtime that day, but at 1830hrs it was not our best friend. Quick turnaround of bikes, run inside to change the V5 and the Rally Pro was ready to go. We've still got the Himalayan so it wouldn't have been a major disaster, but of course when you're all geared to go and your new bike is playing up, it kind of puts a downer on the start of the trip.

Wednesday night down to the coast, then ferry first thing. We'd booked a cabin for an extra few quid, so we'd have somewhere to relax properly rather than share the lounge with others. This turned out to be my godsend, no sickness, comfy bed (even if I was on top bunk), ensuite shower & toilet and several hours of catch-up kip ready for the off in France.

We arrived in France, just 20 minutes away from our hotel and the first intercom chat was, "stay left, stay left" which to be fair, is much easier on a bike.

For those who have never been, Caen is a relatively small but beautiful city. With over 70% of the city being rebuilt since the damage of the WWII, many of the historic buildings remain, with the castle dominating the city centre. We managed to get a cheeky little hotel just 60 seconds walk from the marina where most of the bars & restaurants are, and although our hotel didn't have dedicated parking (even though the website said it did), we were fortunate enough to linger around to get a parking slot right outside the hotel. The red zone parking areas are free for the first hour, only remain for 2 hours, and no return during the day, restriction enforced between 0900 & 1700hrs Mon-Sat. Thankfully we were up and away before 9.30 every morning, and back after 1600hrs every day, with Sunday being our stay local and mooch day.

Thank you Mr Swann for being gracious enough to provide some details of interesting sites in the area, and once we'd familiarised ourselves with town, decided on the following ride outs.





MONT-SAINT-MICHEL

About an hour and a half away from Caen staying off the motorway, the ride there was great. Beautiful scenery, great roads, and fantastic weather. Mont-Saint-Michel UNESCO world heritage site and a tidal island and mainland commune in Normandy, France. The island lies approximately one kilometre off the country's north-western coast, at the mouth of the Couesnon River near Avranches and is 7 hectares in area. The Abbey is as tall as it is wide and the journey to the top is an epic adventure. The tight lower alleyways look like Diagon Alley from Harry Potter, with loads of goodies shops, bars, and restaurants. Little passageways take you off into alternate nooks & crannies around the site, with the main pathway leading to the abbey at the top. It's a trek!!! With a few breath capturing stops along the way, we got to the top and sat in the amazing main area of prayer. Littered with historical artefacts

and references to the Bayeux Tapestry, it's worth a visit if you like that sort of thing. The journey down is harder!! Narrow stairwells with short treads and only a few with handrails make the journey down far more precarious. Lots of pain killers and the promise of a beer made the steep decent much easier to bear.

You could well spend an entire day at the Abbey, moving from bar to bar and taking your time, but if truth be told. We'd have been in no fit state physically or mentally after a few cheeky sherbets.

It's well worth the trip but be mindful that weekends and bank holidays get super busy.

BAYEUX TAPESTRY

Day 2 was another busy day, Bayeux first, then along the D-Day beaches.

Bayeux is only half an hour away from Caen, so if you wanted to you could make the ride there much longer taking in some of the beautiful countryside and plethora of cafes in the local villages and towns. We didn't really mooch around the town of Bayeux, just popped in to see the tapestry. At approx. 70m long, this snapshot of history is outstanding. The mini tour with audio support walks you through the story told on the tapestry and fills in lots of blanks in the well-known tale. The museum above is equally fascinating and provides further evidence of the battle and the journey the tapestry has been on in the last 1,000 years.

Again, be warned, get there at the start of the day or face the congestion of loud Americans! The place was quiet when we arrived, but the square was full of large groups as we departed.

D DAY BEACHES & MEMORIALS

On the same day we travelled up the coast and around the D-Day beaches. A somber tour of what can only be described as truly humbling. We stopped off at the American Memorial and Omaha Beach, which by any standard is amazing. Perfectly manicured and laid out and very worth the visit.

Not too far round the coast after many a small memorial or war relic, is the British Memorial. A stark contrast to that of our US brethren, not as well kept, not as glitzy with pomp or ceremony, but very humbling and perfectly pitched as a dedication to those who fought, and those who lost their lives. In all honesty, you could spend a week just mooching about all the small memorials stopping off at cafes on the route. There's always something that catches your eye that could lead you off another a totally unplanned route.





very sad memories of those who landed. The memorial is just the other side of the bridge and although it costs about 9€ per person, it's well worth the history lesson.

All in all, a great trip, the bikes performed admirably and didn't miss a beat, the weather was incredible (burnt knees to prove it) and the history lesson whilst ripping around on mostly silky-smooth French roads was brilliant.

When can we go again??

Kirstie

In the city of Caen, you have the amazing castle facing a very decorative church, both well worth a visit. There's also the resting place of William the Conqueror, the Abbey of Saint-Étienne, also known as Abbaye aux Hommes by contrast with the Abbaye aux Dames, is a former Benedictine monastery in the French city of Caen, Normandy, dedicated to Saint Stephen. It was founded in 1063 by William the Conqueror and is one of the most important Romanesque buildings in Normandy.

PEGASUS BRIDGE

Not too far out of the city is the Airborne Memorial at Pegasus Bridge, the first house to be liberated from the D-Day landings in now a café next to the bridge and houses some truly inspiring and





GREASY FRY UP CHALLENGE

ANY EXCUSE FOR A NICE RIDE

Following on from the success of the 2021 National TOMCC challenge event "CUP OF TEA", and 2022's "PINT OF BEER" challenge we have arranged a similar challenge event to run through 2023 just for Northants Branch members.

The Challenge

Ride your Triumph in and around Northamptonshire, including adjacent villages and towns, where their first letter forms part of the spelling of **GREASY FRY UP**.

At each location take a photograph of your bike adjacent to the town/village sign which denote the letter in GREASY FRY UP.

For example – **"F"**RY could be a picture at **"F"**LORE.

ENTRY SUBMISSION

When you have completed your route through Northants and have taken all 11 Photographs for each letter of **GREASY FRY UP**, send them in an e-mail to Branch Secretary Les Barras at: secretary@northantstomcc.org.uk. Please include the date that you finished the challenge.

EVENT TIMING

You have until the end of December 2023 to complete the challenge. It's up to you whether you do it all in one day or over a number of rides. If you have more than one Triumph, then you can use different machines for different sections.

CERTIFICATE

All Northants Branch members who complete the "GREASY FRY UP" Challenge will be awarded a certificate of achievement.

Any questions please ask any of your Branch Committee

Les





NORTHANTS BRANCH INFO



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Any queries about membership or other matters you can reach us via northantstomccmembership@btinternet.com

If your club membership is due for renewal here are the best ways of dealing with it...

- 1) Renew on-line via tomcc.org/Home/Membership with a credit card, debit card or PayPal account. You can also get a £2 discount using this method.
- 2) Fill in the membership form that was sent to you, then post it direct to the HQ Membership address at Horley, as shown on the form. Include a cheque made payable to Triumph Owners MCC.
- 3) Fill in the membership form and hand it to the Branch Membership Secretary at a club night. Payment by cheque or cash. Memberships renewed this way are only sent to HQ a couple of times a month, so will take longer to process than 1 or 2 above.

Don't worry about the money as the Branch receives the same amount per member regardless of the method used to renew.

BRANCH HQ:-

The Crown, High Street, Hardingstone, Northampton, NN4 6BZ.

The main access to Hardingstone village is from the roundabout at the junction of the A45, A508 and A5076 (ring road). Other access from the Newport Pagnell Road (B526).

1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, starting at 8pm.

For those months where there is a 5th Wednesday there will be an additional meeting at The Swan in Newton Bromswold, near Rushden.

PURE TRIUMPH:

Our local Triumph dealer is based at The Embankment, Wellingborough, NN8 1LD. The company's website can be found at www.puretriumph.co.uk.

On production of a current Triumph Owners membership card, Pure Triumph at Wellingborough will give a 10% discount on the following items: Clothing, Oxford Products, Helmets, Oil products, Labour on Servicing.

THE BRANCH ON THE INTERNET:

Our website can be found at: www.northantstomcc.org.uk. Most pages are public but there is one small section that is restricted to branch members only, accessed via the password that is advised separately.

We also have Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/northantstomcc/

OTHER INTERNET LINKS:

Triumph Owners MCC national website: www.tomcc.org

Triumph Owners MCC events website: www.tomccevents.co.uk

Triumph Owners Clothing: www.tomccmerchandise.com

The club also has a page on Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/4526704577/.

British Motorcyclists Federation: www.bmf.co.uk

Motorcycle Action Group: www.mag-uk.org

Triumph Motorcycles: www.triumphmotorcycles.co.uk

Northants Branch Clothing Range

The range of Northants Branch clothing: T-Shirt, Polo Shirt, Sweatshirt, Hoodie, Fleece, Business Shirt, Baseball Cap, and new Beanie hat; can be purchased on-line.

Some items can also be done with a large back-print for an additional fee.

To order click on this link:

www.customkit.co.uk/northants-triumph-owners-club-52-c.asp

Club Night Ordering: If you would prefer not to go on-line you can place an order with Les Barras at one of our club nights. Your selection should then be ready for collection at the next club night.

TOOLS AND HOW TO USE THEM



PVC PIPE CUTTER:

A tool used to make plastic pipe too short.



HAMMER:

Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of divining rod to locate the most expensive parts adjacent the object we are trying to hit. Or for making a big hole in plasterboard when you get angry.

Also known as a BFH (big @##*## hammer)



UTILITY KNIFE:

Used to open and slice through the contents of cardboard cartons delivered to your front door. Works particularly well on contents such as seats, vinyl records, liquids in plastic bottles, collector magazines, refund cheques, and rubber or plastic parts. Especially useful for slicing work clothes, but only while in use.

HAVE YOU EVER

Have you ever wondered how your old bike became a classic after you gave it away?

Have you ever got too old for clip-ons?

Have you ever drawn a chopper on your exercise book?

Have you ever wished your dad/grandad had kept their bike?

Tim

